

of Big Business against the working class. Now we shall see Big Business itself in action.

And the entire country, that knows and loves Jane Addams, will watch with interest the bold attempt of Big Business to intimidate her with a "hands-off" order when she has taken up the fight of the working women of Chicago for a living wage and decent working conditions.

According to the Inter-Ocean, a meeting of "representatives from large Chicago business interests" was held at Vogelsang's restaurant yesterday.

The Inter-Ocean says: "There were present representatives from large State street and loop stores, wholesale houses, packing plants and mail order concerns."

R. J. Thorne of the Montgomery Ward mail order house presided. This is one of the concerns yanked up before the O'Hara investigating committee when it met in Chicago to inquire into the relation between starvation wages and the social evil.

Although none of the newspapers gives the names of the big business men present, it is fair to assume that all of the big concerns that have grown rich paying starvation wages to women were on hand—especially the department stores.

And with the big advertisers lined up against the waitresses, the chances are that their powerful pull will be used for all it is worth to whip their newspaper slaves into line against the waitresses.

It was John T. Pirie of Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., head of that big department store, who introduced the resolution ordering Jane Addams to take hands-off and withdraw Ellen Gates Starr, her Hull House assistant, "from further participation in this conspiracy."

I am glad Big Business has come out into the open, for issues are now raised which are far more important than the differences of opinion between Henricl's restaurant and the striking waitresses.

We all know Big Business has been able to subjugate politicians, office-holders, newspapers and even judges.

Now we will see if Big Business can bulldoze the women of Chicago—those good women who took up the fight for the working girls when practically all of the men had abandoned them to their fight.

We'll see whether sordid, selfish, arrogant, cold-blooded and brutal Big Business can bluff and bulldoze Jane Addams, that heroic soul who is considered by many one of the world's greatest women.

In this everlasting fight between God and Mammon, between dollars and humanity, I place more confidence in finding the women on the side of humanity than the men.

And that's one reason I have been an ardent advocate of woman's suffrage and absolute equality of rights for both sexes.

I hope now to see the women of Chicago lay aside all partisan considerations, assert their womanhood and rally around Jane Addams, Ellen Gates Starr, Mrs. Raymond Robins, Ruth Hanna McCormick, Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen and all of the other women who have openly shown their sympathy for their sisters who must work for a living.

The women of Chicago are no longer slaves. They have the same